

Eastern Montana Fire Zone SMOKEJUMPER Operations Supplement 2006



**Bureau of Land Management
EMFZ Fire & Aviation
111 Garryowen Road
Miles City, Montana**

**2006 Aerial Fire Depot and Miles City BLM-Eastern Montana Fire Zone
(EMFZ) Task Order
Includes Financial and Operations Plans**

This task order is made and entered into by and between USDA Forest Service (FS), Region 1, Aerial Fire Depot (AFD) and the USDI Bureau of Land Management (BLM) – Miles City of the Eastern Montana Fire Zone (EMFZ). These agencies have agreed to coordinate efforts for the suppression of wildland fires and severity needs in and adjacent to their areas of responsibility and to limit duplication and improve efficiency and effectiveness.

The following guidelines comply with direction set forth in the Interagency Agreement for Fire Management with the FS and the BLM dated September 2002.

DELIVERABLES:

EQUIPMENT – EMFZ will replace any R-1 government owned equipment that is damaged or consumed while working in the EMFZ.

INVESTIGATION REPORTS – EMFZ will provide R-1 with a copy of accident investigation reports and related documents when R-1 personnel are involved. The R-1 Regional Fire Coordinator will be immediately advised by telephone if a R-1 employee is involved in a major injury or death, and R-1 may assign a member to the EMFZ accident investigation team.

FACILITIES – EMFZ will provide office and base facilities at the Miles City Airport. The EMFZ owns lockers and chute tables and aircraft steps for smokejumper use. The EMFZ shall provide the appropriate number of porta-potties and wash basins as needed.

CREW MAKEUP – EMFZ will be furnished with the appropriate number of fully qualified smokejumpers upon request. Other regions and agencies may contribute smokejumpers to the crew, which will be coordinated by R-1 Smokejumper Operations. Crew makeup will normally be:

- 1 – Foreman (GS-8 or 9)
- 2 – Squad leaders (GS-7)
- 7-10 – Crewmembers (GS-5 or 6)

Within the crew will be at least one ICT3 and two DIVS as well as others qualified as STLC, DOZB, FELC and other assorted ICS qualifications.

WAGES – Home units will pay base 8 wages for all on tour jumpers. EMFZ will pay base 8 wages for all off tour jumpers. EMFZ personnel will authorize all scheduled overtime in advance using form 6100-30. The Foreman or designee shall provide the EMFZ a daily personnel and aircraft cost summary. Smokejumper personnel pre-positioned to the Miles City spike base are entitled to 10 hour stand-by work days.

DAYS OFF – Smokejumpers on assignments will adhere to the National policy of the work/rest guidelines. Smokejumpers will be scheduled for regular days off until fire activity warrants a one in twenty one day policy.

ORDERING – The EMFZ will order the R-1 Smokejumpers either on Severity or Fire numbers depending on the fire activity and/or pre-suppression needs. Smokejumpers and smokejumper aircraft are national resources as per the National Interagency Mobilization Guide. Adjacent units may request smokejumpers from Miles City as needed for initial attack. Ordering will be through normal dispatch channels.

COORDINATION – Region 1 Aerial Fire Depot will be responsible for coordinating crew startup, crew leadership and operations with Miles City BLM and other Smokejumper bases. All dialogue concerning daily operations will be conducted between R-1 AFD and Miles City BLM. The EMFZ Fire Duty Officer will activate this agreement by having the EMFZ-Miles City Interagency Dispatch Center generate a resource order to NRCC. The AFD shall

provide the EMFZ updated operations guide and provide the Aviation Dispatcher and Air Base Manager a mishap plan briefing upon arrival.

PROJECT WORK AND TRAINING – Smokejumpers will participate at the base and on districts as appropriate under severity funding. Smokejumpers will provide classroom and field training as requested and as time permits. Requests will be coordinated through the Air Base Manager. Units requesting assistance should make requests as soon as possible so jumper instructors have adequate time to prepare.

SMOKEJUMPER REQUESTS – Requests will be received via fax and announced over the base public address and intercom system. Spotters will receive dispatch instructions from the Air Base Manager. All inventory equipment serial numbers (i.e. chainsaws, pumps, etc.) will be documented on spotter reports when dropped on fires. Loading time will not exceed 10 minutes. All Smokejumpers will be fire ready at all times except during physical training (PT). Smokejumpers and aircraft will be listed as available to EMFZ on a daily basis, unless they are on or enroute to a fire.

BOOSTER CREWS – Additional jumpers may be fire ordered through NRCC. If mixed loads are used (ram-air & rough parachutes), they will be in accordance with the latest direction from the USFS and BLM Fire Directors in the Washington Office. Jumper-in-charge for booster crews will:

1. Submit time and per diem claims to home units.
2. Address any disciplinary problems.
3. Ensure accommodations are paid without impact on EMFZ if possible.

VEHICLES – Crew vehicles for operations in Miles City will be provided by R-1. Vehicles must accommodate a minimum of 13 people for daily operations. All vehicle use costs will be borne by EMFZ. Vehicles must be acceptable for fire and project work. Smokejumpers will be responsible for routine maintenance and mileage documentation.

- 1 – Van (10-15 pax).....R-1, MSO (\$0.27 per mile)
- 1 – Pickup (3-6 pax).....R-1, MSO (\$0.28 per mile)

TRAVEL TO AND FROM Miles City – The EMFZ will pay mileage to Miles City and return to home bases at the end of the detail. EMFZ will also need to pay mileage for a trip over and back every 10 days for pilot trade outs.

1. R-1 Aerial Fire Depot will transport all supplies needed for the assignment.
2. Grangeville and West Yellowstone will independently provide transportation for their own jumpers and gear.
3. All R-1 jumpers may travel either y Government vehicle and/or Government aircraft depending on aircraft availability. Home units will make travel arrangements.

LODGING – Smokejumpers may stay in motels or rentals. Crewmembers will pay for their own motel or rental accommodations for the duration of the assignment. Individual crewmembers will be reimbursed by EMFZ through per diem claims. The per diem rate for Miles City is CONUS (\$55.00 for hotel and \$31.00 for food and miscellaneous). Weekly renting and gain sharing is encouraged by the EMFZ. It is each crewmember's responsibility to have sufficient funds to cover the cost of living. To minimize the impacts on the EMFZ payments for rooms will be made with cash, credit cards or Government Impact cards.

EQUIPMENT – All smokejumpers shall furnish individual smokejumper gear, including personal protective equipment, main and reserve parachutes, and other support gear and maintain all necessary gear at the Spike Base for cargo drop operations.

Mixed loads (BLM Ram-air & FS-14 parachutes) will be acceptable. The established Interagency Smokejumper Mixed Load Policy will be followed.

INJURY PROTOCOL – Injury protocols will be reviewed during the initial setup and Smokejumper Injury forms will be furnished to the Miles City Dispatch Center. R-1 Smokejumpers are authorized to utilize R-1 smokejumper trauma kits in the EMFZ. Existing guidelines must be followed.

JUMP GEAR – Each base will provide its jumpers with:

- 1 – set of jump gear
- 3 – main parachutes
- 2 – reserve parachutes
- 1 – field programmable radio with narrowband capabilities.

AIRCRAFT AVAILABILITY – R-1 will provide a minimum 8 place smokejumper aircraft for the period of use. R-1 will coordinate and schedule pilots and relief pilots. Normal costs associated with staffing flight crews are covered by EMFZ. NRCC will coordinate aircraft needs with EMFZ.

FOREMEN – The Crew Foreman has authority and responsibility for daily operations. The foreman or assistant foreman will:

- 1. Ensure copies of fire time reports are given to the EMFZ when originals are forwarded to NIFC.
- 2. Ensure firefighter reports are sent to host units on a weekly basis.
- 3. Brief the Duty Dispatcher directly at the beginning and end of workdays during periods of high fire activity.
- 4. Provide Red Card ratings for all jumpers to EMFZ.
- 5. Provide booster crew briefings.
- 6. Conduct operations in accordance with the USFS/BLM Smokejumper Operations Guide.

AIR BASE MANAGER – The EMFZ Air Base Manager or assistant will be the liaison for smokejumper operations. All requests for supplies and equipment will be placed through the Air Base Manager.

SQUAD LEADERS – Squad leaders from each base will be knowledgeable in home base administrative requirements and will serve as a point of contact for home base administrative personnel. Crew Foreman and Squad leaders will:

- 1. Ensure T&A's, per diem claims, and other personnel forms are completed and mailed in accordance with home base requirements.
- 2. Provide the Crew Foreman with a list of Red Card ratings.
- 3. Serve as spotters.
- 4. Provide leadership at the base of operations and on fire and project work assignments.

Any disciplinary infraction or substandard performance will result in immediate replacement at the home region expense.

ANNUAL PRESEASON MEETING – This meeting shall be conducted prior to fire season with hands on inventory at the spike base accomplished by both parties.

TARGET COST/PRICE –

1 Foreman	\$271/day	\$271/day, Base 8's covered
2 Squad Leaders	\$232/day	\$464/day, Base 8's covered
10 Crewmembers	\$165/day	\$1,650/day, on tour Base 8's covered
2 Pilots	\$345/day	\$690/day, Base 8's covered
Per diem – 13 crewmembers + 2 pilots	\$55 lodging & \$31 meals	\$1,290/day
TOTAL PERSONNEL		\$3,675/day
Mileage, Van (10-15 pax)	\$0.27 per mile	1,020 miles round trip, \$275
Mileage, Pickup (6 pax)	\$0.28 per mile	1,020 miles round trip, \$285
TDC-3, N115Z	\$1,075 per hour	3.0 round trip, \$3,225
Sherpa, C23, N179Z	\$932 per hour	3.2 round trip, \$2,982
Dornier (severity contract)	\$3,600 AV - \$663 FT	3.0 round trip, \$1,989

RESPONSIBLE PROJECT OFFICIALS – R-1 Aerial Fire Depot will provide technical inspections at Miles City and provide a smokejumper coordinator when spike base operations other than Miles City are activated.

The R-1 Smokejumper Program Manager will provide technical inspections of the Miles City smokejumper operation upon request from the EMFZ.

The principle contacts for this instrument are:

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